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PLANNING

community development

news bulletin

Montana Division of Planning
and Economic Development
Dept. of Intergovernmental Relations

(406) 449-3757

No. 5 - October 1973

Federal grants and "grantsmanship" is the subject of a special instructional session sponsored by the Denver regional office in Helena, October 24.

Background: The Office of Management Budget (OMB) issued Circular Number A-102 Revised, on October 19, 1971, then addressed to all Federal agencies. The circular, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and Local Governments" aimed at establishing consistency and uniformity among federal agencies in the process of requesting, administering, reporting and accounting for Federal grants-in aid. Basically, forms were standardized so the various agencies speak a common language.

After two years testing (and some reluctance and delay) the circular calling for standardization is about to be implemented. Objective: a less painful process of grantsmanship and administration than previously.

Thus: the instructional session . . . in Helena, Montana Highway Department auditorium, Sixth and Roberts Streets, 9:00 a.m., October 24.

Contents: Discuss the circular history, objectives and impacts. All persons working with grants-in-aid programs are invited. The program should not run more than 4 hours . . . It could greatly help, even be essential to obtaining prompt and positive action from federal agencies in future requests.

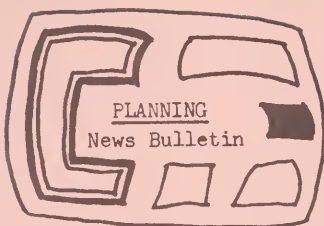
Missoula County has a Director of its areawide planning organization, Missoula Planning Policy Board . . . John Crowley, former planning director at South Portland, Maine . . . Also new chief planner for Missoula County is Pat Lloyd, 1973 graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a master's degree in regional and city planning.

Multi-County District Council Guidelines . . . distributed by Governor Judge are "Proposed Guidelines for State Recognition of District Councils." Developed by the Department of Intergovernmental Relations, they provide broad ground rules for the establishment of organizations of local officials and citizens in the 12 multi-county districts.

Governor said . . . the purpose of the organization will be to establish district goals and objectives and also to serve as an agent of local governments in dealing with state and federal agencies.

For recognition . . . member governments of the district council must represent at least 90% of the population . . . two-thirds of the voting representatives must be elected officials and the member local governments must contribute sufficient funds to hire a full-time coordinator.

Designated district councils will have authority to review and comment on multi-county planning and development proposals and will administer general purpose planning funds for the districts.



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PLANNING--NEWS BULLETIN -- Page Two

Local Planning and the administration's Responsive Governments Act . . . submitted to Senate a few weeks ago . . . the proposed bill represents a major shift in the focus of HUD 701 planning assistance program toward an emphasis on building state and local management capacity.

Planning and management defined: (A) establishing governmental goals, objectives and policies, together with capital programming, plan coordination and other supporting activities . . . (B) conducting the executive function of planning, organizing, coordinating, direction, controlling and supervising an activity with responsibility for results.

The bill would broaden the range of activities eligible for assistance. HUD would have wide discretion in developing regulations, procedures. No local funds required to match grants. Also, anticipated that HUD would shift primary administrative responsibility to states.

Information of interest regionally or statewide regarding local planning boards is sought for this newsbulletin as a means to further communication and cooperation in mutual planning efforts.

A social-economic-government service study is being undertaken on the Colstrip area regarding proposed Montana Power plants 3 and 4. The study will be conducted by the Department of Intergovernmental Relations . . . completion is scheduled for next August.

Ravalli County Commissioners adopted countywide subdivision regulations in August for the county planning board jurisdictional area . . . also adopted zoning regulations and subdivision regulations for city-county area of Hamilton . . . John Boland is the new director of planning for Ravalli. He hails from Virginia where he held a position as Community Development Specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service with the 5th planning district.

Beaverhead County Planning Board has completed review and recommended subdivision regulations for its jurisdictional area to the county commissioners . . . while Mineral County held a public meeting on the same topic.

PERSONS desiring to receive this bulletin should contact the Planning Division, also, any Planning Board member address changes should be sent in.

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